



COUNTY OF
LOS ANGELES
ANIMAL CARE
AND CONTROL

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PRESS RELEASE- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HALLOWEEN: DON'T LET IT SPOOK YOUR PETS

The County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC) would like to remind pet owners that although Halloween may be a fun holiday for humans, it can be a potentially dangerous and frightening time for your four legged family members. Here are a few tips to keep your pets safe this Halloween:

- Keep pets indoors in a secure, comfortable area with a radio or television playing in the background. Many pets fear the noises of trick-or-treaters.
- Always keep your pet's license current. A current license and ID tags securely affixed to your pet's collar. A license tag and a microchip is the only voice a pet has if he or she becomes lost.
- Do not leave pets outside unattended. Loud noises frighten pets and they may panic, become confused, and go through great lengths to escape their enclosures.
- Keep pets away from all candy. Chocolate, which contains theobromine, can be poisonous to pets, causing nerve damage and even death.
- Properly dispose of all candy wrappers. Tinfoil and cellophane candy wrappers are tempting treats for pets and can cause pets to choke or to have intestinal blocks.
- Keep pumpkins or jack-o-lanterns away from pets. Pets can easily knock them over, which could result in a burn.
- Halloween pet costumes can pose safety hazards for pets. Do not dress your pet up unless he or she is used to it. Make sure the costume does not restrict their movement, vision, hearing, or the ability to breathe or bark. Pet costumes should not have small or dangling accessories that can be swallowed by your pet.
- If your pet does become lost, it is critical that you physically visit the animal shelters surrounding your area. Be sure to bring a photograph of your missing pet to post at your local shelter.

For more information, contact your local animal shelter, visit our website, animalcare.lacounty.gov, follow us on Twitter @ LACoAnimalCare, or "Like" us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/CountyofLosAngelesAnimalCare>.



There are six Los Angeles County Animal Care Centers. The locations are: Downey, Baldwin Park, Carson, Castaic, Lancaster and Agoura Hills, in addition to the Antelope Valley Adoption Center, located in Lancaster.